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Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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WOOL

BAE estimates 1951 domestic wool production at 250,445,000 pounds including 225,545,000 pounds shorn. 1950 production 247,822,000 pounds, 215,422,000 pounds shorn. Ten year average (1940-49) production 375,377,000. Last year's output shows first increase since 1942.

Average price received for shorn wool in 1951 was 99.5 cents per pound, and shorn output brought producers an estimated \$224,515,000 --- about \$101 million more than in 1950 -- \$97 million above ten year average -- and the highest on record. Average price, 1950, was 57.3 cents, and ten year average was 41.2 cents per pound.

World wool production 1951-52 season now estimated by OFAR at about 4,070 million pounds, grease basis -- compared 4,010 million pounds in 1950-51 and record 4,200 million in 1942.

CCC COMMODITIES FOR DOMESTIC SALE DURING MARCH: DRIED WHOLE EGGS, NONFAT DRY MILK SOLIDS, RAW LINSEED OIL, REFINED COTTONSEED OIL, FLAXSEED, DRY EDIBLE BEANS, AUSTRIAN WINTER PEAS, BLUE LUPINE SEED, COMMON AND WILLAMETTE VETCH, RED CLOVER SEED, WHEAT, OATS, BARLEY, CORN. FOR EXPORT SALE AT SPECIFIC EXPORT PRICES: WHEAT, DRY EDIBLE BEANS, AUSTRIAN WINTER PEAS. THE OTHER COMMODITIES ON DOMESTIC LIST, EXCEPT REFINED COTTONSEED OIL, ALSO OBTAINABLE FOR EXPORT. SALES FROM DOMESTIC LIST JANUARY 1 THROUGH FEBRUARY 21 -- \$12,984,943; FROM EXPORT LIST -- \$2,408,106.

FARM INCOME

Of total 1951 cash receipts from farm marketings in U. S., \$19.6 billion came from livestock and products, and \$13.2 billion from crops. Government payments \$286 million, bringing cash receipts to estimated \$33.1 billion.

Livestock income from meat animals, \$11.3 billion; dairy products, \$4.4 billion; poultry and eggs, \$3.6 billion; other, \$288 million. Crop income: food grains, \$1.9 billion; feed crops, \$2 billion; cotton, (lint and seed), \$3 billion; oil-bearing crops, \$1 billion; tobacco, \$1.2 billion; vegetables, \$1.7 billion; fruits and tree nuts, \$1.3 billion; other, \$1.1 billion.

SOYBEANS

U. S. 1951 exports of soybeans and soybean oil, amounted to 76.9 million bushels in soybean equivalent -- a record volume and over one-fourth of the record 1950 crop. Previous high in 1949 -- 61.9 million bushels. Exports 1950 - 50.2 million bushels.

SUGAR

Distribution by primary distributors in continental U. S. week ended February 23 totalled 119,602 tons, raw value. Total distribution since January 1 -- 1,013,010 tons against 1,116,459 tons in corresponding 1951 period.

EGGS LEAD USDA'S LIST OF FOODS EXPECTED TO BE IN PLentiful SUPPLY NATIONALLY DURING APRIL. ALSO FEATURED ARE FRESH ORANGES AND PROCESSED ORANGE AND GRAPEFRUIT PRODUCTS. LIST ALSO INCLUDES GRAPEFRUIT (EAST AND MIDWEST), DOMESTIC DATES, PRUNES, PECANS AND ALMONDS, COTTAGE CHEESE, NONFAT DRY MILK, BROILERS AND FRYERS, FROZEN FISH, LARD, PEANUT BUTTER, SALAD OILS AND VEGETABLE SHORTENING.

MOHLIR

Production in 7 leading states in 1951 estimated by BAE at 14,573,000 pounds -- 10 percent above 1950 but 24 percent under 10 year (1940-49) average. Cash receipts, at average price of \$1.18 per pound, amounted to \$17,188,000 -- up 71 percent from 1950 and the highest on record.

POULTRY

USDA's holdings of dried whole eggs dropped to 9,548,345 pounds on February 21 with allocation of 68,545 pounds for domestic donation. Release of 3.5 million pounds for donation to eligible U.S. private welfare organizations for foreign relief, was announced by USDA February 29. Offered free of cost at point of storage.

Poultry, canned or used in canning during January, totalled 13,425,000 pounds -- 23 percent less than January, 1951 -- but 21 percent more than average 1946-50 January pack. Total poultry canned in all plants (inspected and others) in 1951 was 170,774,000 pounds against 152,049,000 pounds in 1950.

SALES UNDER IWA, PERIOD FEBRUARY 20-26 WERE 77,000 BUSHELS OF WHEAT (INCLUDING 29,000 CWT. OF FLOUR IN WHEAT EQUIVALENT). CHIEF BUYERS WERE UK, SAUDI ARABIA, PORTUGAL AND ICELAND. GRAIN SUPPLIES IN THE FOUR PRINCIPAL EXPORTING COUNTRIES ON JANUARY 1 -- ESTIMATED BY OFAR AT 155 MILLION SHORT TONS, BASED ON PRELIMINARY REPORT. THIS WOULD BE 6 PERCENT LESS THAN LAST YEAR, BUT 6 PERCENT ABOVE AVERAGE JANUARY 1 STOCKS FOR FIVE YEARS ENDING WITH 1951.

FRUITS

Proposal that Federal grade and size regulations under marketing agreement program for Florida citrus fruits should be suspended for remainder of 1951-52 marketing season has been denied by USDA. Department held such action would work to disadvantage of producers.

Effective March 5, USDA starts program to encourage exports of fresh and processed grapefruit. Provides for payments up to 40 percent of the export sales price, basis f.a.s. U.S. ports, to be limited by maximum rates established for individual products.

DAIRY

Production of major dairy products in U.S. in 1951, and changes from 1950: creamery butter, 1,214,685,000 pounds -- down 12 percent; ice cream, 570,880,000 gallons -- up 3 percent; all cheese, 1,157,560,000 pounds -- down 3 percent; evaporated, 2.9 billion pounds -- up 1 percent; sweetened condensed milk, 59.2 million pounds -- down 4 percent; spray and roller nonfat dry milk solids, 711.3 million pounds -- down 19 percent; dried whole milk, 130.7 million pounds -- up 5 percent; dry casein, 21.7 million pounds -- up 17 percent.

LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

Federally inspected meat output week ended March 1 was 346 million pounds, up 11 percent from previous week, 18 percent over year ago. Production first two months this year over 3 billion pounds, about 9 percent above same period 1951. Increase result of big February slaughter.

Hog prices (barrows and gilts) averaged \$16.85 at Chicago past week, lowest since week ended April 27, 1950. Roughly \$5.00 below year earlier. Chicago lamb top \$28.50 compared all time record high \$42.50 spring 1951.

ICC IS HOLDING HEARINGS ON HIGHER FREIGHT RATES REQUESTED BY RAILROADS. LAST AUGUST RAILS GOT 9 PERCENT INCREASE IN EAST, 6 PERCENT IN REST OF COUNTRY. NOW ASK ADDITIONAL 6 PERCENT IN EASTERN AREA, 9 PERCENT ELSEWHERE. USDA IS PRESENTING EVIDENCE TO SHOW AGRICULTURE CAN'T STAND HIGHER RATES, THAT RAIL CARRIERS AREN'T DESPERATELY IN NEED OF MORE REVENUE.

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March 11, 1952

TOBACCO

U. S. manufacturers produced a record 419 billion cigarettes in 1951 -- 27 billion above 1950. Consumption in nation and territories up 20 billion to 401 billion. Of balance, 17 billion exported. Military forces overseas smoked about 20 billion of domestic take compared 15 billion in 1950 and 12 billion in 1949. U. S. consumption in 1952 expected to exceed last year.

Cigar consumption in 1951 totalled 5,735 million, against 5,538 million in 1950. U. S. personnel overseas consumed additional 80 million, compared 47 million in 1950.

Manufacture of smoking tobacco however, dropped from 108 million in 1950 to 101 million in 1951....lowest in last 50 years. Chewing tobacco output dropped 2 percent to 86.4 million pounds. Snuff production - 39.5 million pounds, slightly below 1950.

DOMESTIC MILLS USED 4,707,000 BALES OF COTTON FROM AUGUST 1 THROUGH JANUARY, COMPARED 5,449,000 SAME PERIOD 1950-51. EXPORTS AUGUST 1 THROUGH DECEMBER 2,873,000 BALES, COMPARED 1,833,000 SAME PERIOD YEAR EARLIER.

GRAIN

Criminal indictments in six Ohio grain storage cases, involving conversion of CCC owned grain, were returned by Federal Grand Juries week ended March 8. Cases involve:

- Bryan Farmers' Cooperative Grain & Supply Co., Bryan, Ohio
Clarence E. Davis, Pres. & Gen. Mgr., indicted for conversion wheat and soybeans. CCC claim \$118,675.13.
- Kingston Farmers Exchange, Kingston, Ohio
Everett F. Reynolds, Vice-Pres. and Ronald W. Churtz, Mgr., indicted for conspiracy and conversion of wheat. CCC claim \$111,123.39.
- Sycamore Mill & Supply Co., Sycamore, Ohio
Ward Walton and Marion A. Ward, indicted for conversion corn. CCC claim \$518,318.17.
- Walton & Myers Elevator, Upper Sandusky, Ohio
Ward Walton, indicted for conversion corn. CCC claim \$835,269.94.
- Besley Mills, Morrow, Ohio
Bert Besley indicted for conversion wheat. CCC claim \$36,528.74
- Walton and Case, Richwood, Ohio
Ward Walton and Russell P. Case, indicted for conversion corn and false storage claims. CCC claim \$199,601.25.

U. S. sales of wheat under IWA for period Feb. 27-March 4, inclusive, were 957,000 bushels. Cumulative sales under 1951-52 quotas now total 242,168,000 bushels, leaving quota balance of 12,977,000 bushels.

ABOUT 285 MILLION POUNDS EDIBLE GRADE SHELLLED PEANUTS WERE USED IN PEANUT PRODUCTS SEPT. 1-JAN. 31 PERIOD OF CURRENT SEASON --6 PERCENT OVER SAME 1950-51 PERIOD. QUANTITY USED IN CANDY UP 5 PERCENT, FOR SALTED PEANUTS 12 PERCENT, FOR PEANUT BUTTER 4 PERCENT.

SUGAR

Distribution in continental U.S. by primary distributors week ended March 1 estimated at 137,970 tons to bring total since Jan. 1 to 1,123,501 tons. Compares with 1,256,758 tons same period 1951.

USDA's survey "invisible" supplies sugar shows following inventories on Dec. 31, 1951: Retail, 94,984 tons; wholesale, 78,824 tons; industrial users, 229,019 tons. Total inventories -- 402,827 tons, compared with 517,014 tons a year earlier.

MEAT

Federally inspected meat output week ended March 8 estimated at 336 million pounds, down 3 percent from previous week, 13 over year ago. Heavy snows, icy roads hindered movement of livestock and slaughter all classes under preceding week. Meat production still larger this season than any time since 1946.

FEED GRAINS

Supplies feed grains smaller while livestock and poultry on U.S. farms first half 1952 larger than in any past three years. Grain consuming animal units on farms January 1 estimated by BAE at 174 million, against 171.3 million year ago. Stocks four feed grains in all positions 90.3 million tons, compared 100 million year earlier.

Corn stocks totalled 66.7 million tons (2,384 million bu.)--down 9 percent from a year ago, smallest since 1948. Most of reduction in west north central region. However, corn supplies higher than 1946-50 average. Carryover next October 1 expected to be around 500 million bu.--about a third less than 1951 carryover.

Hay stocks January 1 estimated at 73.4 million tons -- 5 percent larger than year earlier, only slightly below record supply of January 1, 1943.

CCC HOLDINGS OF DRIED EGGS ON FEB. 29 WERE 9,570,619 POUNDS STORED IN 29 WAREHOUSES AS FOLLOWS: CHICAGO AREA, 5,987,914 POUNDS; DALLAS, 223,825 POUNDS; KANSAS CITY, 2,956,415 POUNDS; MINNEAPOLIS, 402,465 POUNDS. ABOUT 3.5 MILLION POUNDS OF THESE STOCKS LARMARKED FOR EXPORT DONATION.

FRUITS

California-Arizona Orange Marketing Order, regulating handling of oranges grown in area since 1942, was terminated March 8. Growers voted on Order in referendum January 7 through February 7. Majority favored continuance but support of program still not substantial enough for effective operation.

Fresh apple export payment program will be terminated March 31. Over 2,600,000 boxes of apples exported or covered by applications for export under program by February 23.

PRICE SUPPORT

Through January 1952, farmers placed 284,586,259 bushels of 1951-crop grains and oilseeds under price support, compared about 353,008,000 bushels same period year earlier. July 1951-January 1952 totals are: wheat 210,365,422 bu.; corn 17,027,193 bu.; rye 516,059 bu.; oats 12,947,203 bu.; barley 16,702,918 bu.; grain sorghums 14,797,699 bu.; soybeans 10,375,283 bu.; flaxseed 1,854,492 bu.

Also under price support loans and purchase agreements Jan. 31. were: dry edible beans, 2,938,102 cwt.; rice, 5,482,858 cwt.; hay and pasture seed, 141,373 cwt.; winter cover crop seed, 88,614 cwt.

CCC HAD \$1,953,761,000 INVESTED IN PRICE-SUPPORT PROGRAM LOANS AND INVENTORIES ON JANUARY 31. OUTSTANDING LOANS WERE \$787,454,000. INVENTORIES \$1,166,307,000. CORPORATION HAD NET LOSS OF \$40,654,000 FIRST SEVEN MONTHS OF FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30, 1952. NET LOSS FOR COMPLETE FISCAL YEAR ENDED JUNE 30, 1951 WAS \$345,599,000.

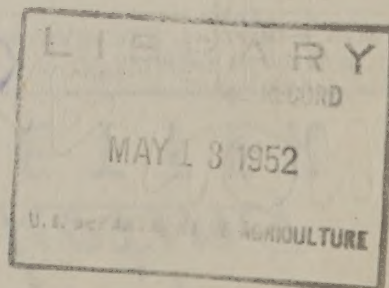
DAIRY

Hearings on amendments to three midwest milk marketing orders are scheduled for near future -- Chicago, March 11 -- Omaha-Council Bluffs, at Omaha, March 26 -- and Sioux Falls-Mitchell, S. D. at Sioux Falls, March 24.

USDA has extended until May 8 the time for interested parties to file views and comments on proposed revision of U. S. standards for grades of butter.

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MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

March 18, 1952

COMMODITY CREDIT CORPORATION

CCC price-support program loans and inventories on January 31 represented an investment of \$1,953,761,000. Corporation had net realized loss of \$40,645,000 in carrying out the program in first seven months of fiscal 1952.

Of total investment, loans outstanding \$787,454,000, inventories \$1,166,307,214. Price support operations in wheat, corn, tobacco and cotton accounted for bulk of loans outstanding. Major inventory items: corn 380 million bu.; wheat 127 million bu.; linseed oil 212 million pounds; field seed 356 million pounds; peanuts 325 million pounds; and gum rosin 144 million pounds.

NATIONAL HOLDINGS OF ALL MEATS IN PUBLIC COLD STORAGE ON FEB. 29 AMOUNTED TO 1,195,518,000 POUNDS -- LARGEST SINCE 1944. BEEF STOCKS 250 MILLION POUNDS --- LARGEST SINCE 1944, SECOND LARGEST SINCE 1920. PORK HOLDINGS 786,794,000 POUNDS, LARGEST SINCE 1944, WITH 539 MILLION POUNDS FROZEN PORK - LARGEST MARCH 1 TOTAL ON RECORD.

LIVESTOCK

Cattle on feed for market January 1 numbered 5.1 million head - 11 percent more than a year earlier, and a new record. However movement of cattle to feedlots this year was down from a year ago, BAE reports.

GRAIN

Wheat carryover July 1, 1952 is forecast at about 300 million bushels on basis of expected disappearance of 1,115 million bushels in 1951-52 season. Disappearance this year, largest since 1948, includes expected domestic use of 715 million bushels and exports of 400 million. Carryover July 1, 1951 was 336 million.

Government and commercial grain exports scheduled for April total 1,983,000 long tons -- for May schedule 1,631,000 tons -- and a preliminary schedule for June of 1,355,000 tons, were announced March 14 by USDA.

Sales under ITA in period March 5-11 inclusive, amounted to 1,718,368 bushels (including 210,119 cwt. flour in wheat equivalent).

STOCKS OF MERCHANTABLE POTATOES HELD BY GROWERS AND LOCAL DEALERS IN OR NEAR AREAS OF PRODUCTION MARCH 1 ARE ESTIMATED AT 46,730,000 BUSHELS -- LITTLE MORE THAN HALF OF STOCKS HELD IN STORAGE A YEAR AGO. HOWEVER, WITH GOVERNMENT PURCHASES OF 34.3 MILLION MADE AFTER MARCH 1, 1951 EXCLUDED, THIS YEAR'S STOCKS ARE ONLY 7.1 MILLION BUSHELS LESS.

VEGETABLES

Production of 18 winter truck crops now estimated at 1,406,800 tons - 6 percent less than last year, 3 percent over average. About half the crops showed increases -- half decreases. Heaviest tonnage changes for cabbage, carrots, and lettuce on down side.

CITRUS

Total orange production for 1951-52 season is estimated by USDA's Crop Reporting Board at 117.9 million boxes -- 1 percent above the 1950-51 crop and 19 percent above average. Grapefruit production is forecast at 40.4 million boxes -- 13 percent below last season, 21 percent below average. Lemon crop is forecast at 12.6 million boxes - down 6 percent.

About 72 million boxes of oranges were available for use after March 1 this year against 70 million a year ago. Grapefruit remaining March 1 amounted to about 22 million boxes compared with 19 million boxes used after March 1, 1951.

DAIRY

Milk production during February is estimated at 8,700 million pounds- 2 percent above February 1951, due to the 29 day month.

Secretary of Agriculture Brannan has terminated certain provisions of the Greater Boston, Cincinnati, and Dayton-Springfield milk marketing orders relating to payments to cooperative associations of producers for special services rendered. Action based on U. S. Supreme Court decision announced March 3.

* * *

COCONUT OIL AND OITICICA OIL HAVE BEEN REMOVED FROM EXPORT ALLOCATION AND OFFICE OF INTERNATIONAL TRADE, U. S. DEPT. OF COMMERCE, IS BEING AUTHORIZED BY USDA TO PLACE THESE OILS UNDER GENERAL LICENSE. NO LIMIT PLACED ON TOTAL QUANTITY OF MEDICINAL CASTOR OIL WHICH MAY BE LICENSED FOR EXPORT FROM APRIL THROUGH JUNE, BUT INDIVIDUAL EXPORT LICENSES STILL REQUIRED.

SUGAR

Sugar charged against 1952 quotas of 7.7 million tons through January and February amounted to 942,729 tons (partly estimated), compared with 1,145,365 tons in the same 1951 period.

* * *

POULTRY

Farm poultry flocks produced at record rate per hen during February and, with 3 percent more layers on farms, egg output totalled 5,715 million, a new record -- 10 percent higher than last year, 21 percent above 1941-50 February average.

Commercial hatcheries produced 190,055,000 chicks during month -- largest February output of record - 18 percent above a year ago, 53 percent over 1946-50 February average.

* * *

NO CHANGES ARE BEING MADE AT PRESENT IN ITS OFFICIAL STANDARDS FOR FLAXSEED USDA HAS ANNOUNCED. A HEARING WAS HELD JANUARY 15 FOLLOWING REQUESTS BY SEVERAL PROCESSORS FOR REVISION BY REDUCING THE MAXIMUM LIMIT OF MOISTURE PERMITTED IN GRADE NO. 1 FROM 11 TO 9-1/2 PERCENT.

* * *

TOBACCO

USDA has announced minimum price support levels for specified kinds of tobacco grown in U. S. and Puerto Rico under 1952 mandatory price support loan program. Loans will be available on 1952 crop Burley, flue-cured and Puerto Rican tobaccos at 90 percent of parity. Loans on fire-cured will be 75 percent of burley rate, dark air-cured and Virginia sun-cured 66-2/3 percent of the Burley rate. Growers of Maryland, Pennsylvania Seedleaf, and cigar and binder kinds of tobaccos get no support on 1952 crops since they disapproved marketing quotas in recent referenda.

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MEAT

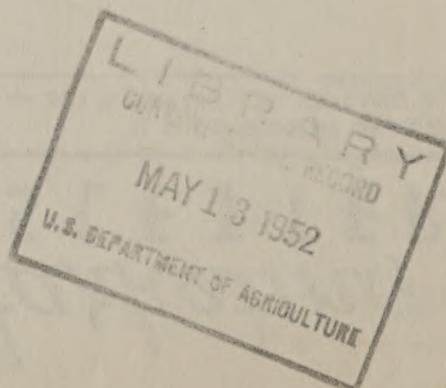
Meat production under Federal inspection week ended March 15 was estimated at 327 million pounds, 3 percent under previous week, 11 percent over year ago. Seventh consecutive week that production larger than year earlier, reflecting consistently bigger slaughter cattle, hogs, and lambs than same weeks in 1951.

* * *

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MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

March 25, 1952

1952-CROPS - PROSPECTIVE PLANTINGS

Farmers told BAE on March 1 they intend to plant about 271.8 million acres to 16 major crops this year...about 1 million less than in 1951. Significant changes, though, might result from weather, prices and USDA's call for all time record production. Total acreage planted to corn will fall about 5 million short of suggested USDA goal. Comparison of farmers intentions and 1952 goals follow:

	March 1			March 1	
	Goals	Intentions		Goals	Intentions
	(Mil. of Acres)			(Mil. of Acres)	
Corn	89.0	83.9	Sorghums	15.2	13.4
Spring wheat	21.6	21.9	Hay	60.0	75.3
Oats	41.6	42.8	Flaxseed	4.0	3.9
Barley	12.8	9.7	Beans	1.6	1.4
Soybeans	13.0	15.4	Rice	1.9	1.9

* * *

USDA WILL SUPPORT 1952 CROP FARMERS' STOCK PEANUTS AT NATIONAL AVERAGE OF NOT LESS THAN \$239.40 PER TON -- 90 PERCENT OF FEB. 15 PARITY. SUPPORT LEVEL WILL BE INCREASED IF PARITY PRICE AT BEGINNING OF MARKETING YEAR, AUGUST 1, IS HIGHER. THE 1951 SUPPORT LEVEL - \$230.56 - WAS 88 PERCENT OF PARITY. SUPPORT WILL BE AVAILABLE THROUGH CCC LOANS AND PURCHASE AGREEMENTS, INSTEAD OF DIRECT PURCHASES AS IN RECENT YEARS.

* * *

CITRUS

Household purchases of oranges, frozen concentrated orange juice, and canned single strength orange juice during October-December 1951 were equivalent to about 18,500,000 cases of fresh fruit - 13 percent higher than year earlier, 17 percent over same 1949 period. Larger purchases of frozen concentrated juice - 2-1/2 times that of 1949 period - accounted for most of increase.

Purchase of grape fruit, canned single strength, and frozen concentrated during same 1951 period was equivalent to 7,300,000 cases, down 9 percent from year earlier, 17 percent above 1949 period.

* * *

LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

Federally inspected output of meat week ended March 22 was 310 million pounds, 5 percent under preceding week, 6 percent over year ago. Increase over year ago was greater in recent weeks. Slaughter of hogs and lambs still well above year ago, but cattle slaughter smallest for any week since last July. However, beef production recently above trade requirements, and many plants cut kill.

* * *

USDA ANNOUNCES THAT IT WILL SUPPORT HONEY AT A NATIONAL AVERAGE PRICE OF 11.4 CENTS PER POUND. THIS IS 70 PERCENT OF CURRENT PARITY PRICE ADJUSTED TO THE 60-POUND CONTAINER LEVEL. NATIONAL AVERAGE SUPPORT IN 1951 SEASON WAS 9.9 CENTS OR 60 PERCENT OF PARITY. THE HONEY EXPORT AND DIVERSION PROGRAMS ALSO WILL CONTINUE DURING THE 1952 SEASON. PROGRAM DETAILS TO BE ANNOUNCED LATER.

* * *

SUGAR

Distribution by primary distributors in the continental U.S., week ended March 15, amounted to 243,270 tons (partly estimated) compared with 117,913 tons in same 1951 period. Total distribution since January 1 - 1,517,008 tons against 1,494,251 tons in same 1951 period.

USDA on March 20 announced 1952 Puerto Rico sugar quotas for the U.S. at 910,000 short tons, raw value, and 100,000 tons for Puerto Rico consumption. Order allots 80 percent of the mainland and local quotas for marketings up to August 1, 1952. Of the Mainland (U.S.) quota, 126,033 tons may be brought into U.S. as direct-consumption sugar.

U.S.D.A. will not revise its standards for grades of table maple syrup and maple syrup for reprocessing, proposed in April, 1951. Standards in effect since 1940 will continue effective.

Net changes in storage holdings during February					
Cooler Commodities	Holdings Feb. 29 1,000 lb.	Net Change during Feb. 1,000 lb.	Freezer Commodities	Holdings Feb. 29 1,000 lb.	Net Change During Feb. 1,000 lb.
Apples	518,640	- 250,032	Fruits	268,284	- 34,467
Pears	14,050	- 17,050	Vegetables	397,312	- 47,097
Dried & ev.fts.	53,598	- 1,753	Cream	5,626	- 4,864
Can'd.ft.& veg.	3,608	- 121	Cream'y butter	7,663	- 6,211
Nuts & nutmeats	101,361	- 14,513	Eggs	59,935	- 6,880
Cheese	164,162	- 29,110	Poultry	269,334	- 30,666
Shell eggs	41,760	- 31,050	Beef	241,079	- 11,210
Dried eggs	15,620	- 1,344	Pork	589,949	- 70,440
Beef	9,729	- 698	Sausage	8,620	- 2,798
Pork	196,245	- 10,762	Lamb & mutton	13,436	- 404
Sausage	11,103	- 461	Veal	11,618	- 4,333
Canned meats	45,201	- 8,122	Edible offal	68,538	- 815
Lard & pork fat	53,492	- 4,208	Other	353,185	- 7,368
Other	378,176	- 76,725			
Total	1,606,745	- 307,717	Total	2,294,579	- 28,531

FEBRUARY PRODUCTION: TURPENTINE -- WOOD, 34,240 BARRELS:
GUM, 5,170 BARRELS: ROSIN--WOOD, 108,320 DRUMS GUM, 17,790
DRUMS. STOCKS OF WOOD AND GUM TURPENTINE FEBRUARY 29 WERE
166,040 BARRELS, COMPARED WITH 98,090 A YEAR EARLIER. ROSIN,
WOOD, AND GUM 638,620 DRUMS AGAINST 450,130 A YEAR AGO.

* * *

DAIRY

The dairy support program for coming year starting April 1 will be based on \$3.85 per cwt. for manufacturing milk and 69.2 cents per pound for butterfat...90 percent of parity. USDA will offer to make carlot purchases of dairy products after April 1, through March 31, 1953, at following prices per pound: butter, grade A or higher, 67.75 cents; grade B, 65.75 cents; cheddar cheese, grade A or higher, 38.25 cents; nonfat dry milk solids, U.S. Extra grade, maximum moisture content 3-1/2 percent, spray - 17 cents, roller 15 cents.

To offset higher operating costs, fees charged by USDA for voluntary grading and inspection will be raised April 1.

USDA has approved changes in the Class I milk price differential to \$1.45 for April in the Topeka, Kan. and Greater Kansas City milk order areas.

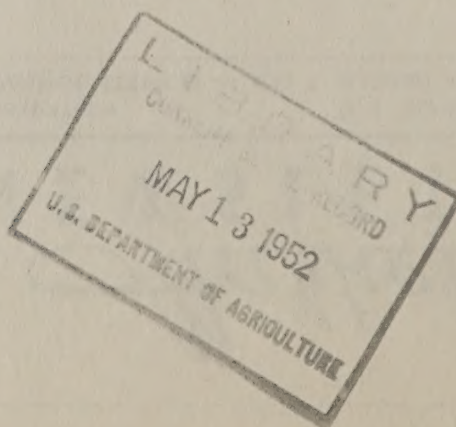
Changes in orders covering Columbus, Ohio; Fort Wayne, Indiana; and the Tri-State covering parts of Ohio, Kentucky and West Virginia have also been recommended by USDA. Dairymen in Fort Wayne area have until April 3 to comment on changes. Final date for opinions re Columbus, Ohio and Tri-State orders is March 26.

Hearing on some proposed changes in Chicago milk order will be held April 14 at 10:00 a.m. in Hotel LaSalle. Among proposals for consideration is one to merge Rockford-Freeport order with that at Chicago.

* * *

PREPACKAGED PRODUCTS

Thirty-four page Agriculture Information Bulletin No. 77 entitled "Costs of and Reasons for Rewrapping Prepackaged Meats, Poultry, and Cheese" is latest in series of USDA studies to aid retail store operators in handling prepackaged foods. Based on observations in Washington, D. C. supermarkets, study shows average of 6 to 10 percent of above products required rewrapping at average cost of 2.7 cents per package. Available from Superintendent of Documents, U.S. Gov't. Printing Office, Washington 25, D.C.



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April 1, 1952

GRAIN

USDA announces that if market value of certain commodities under CCC warehouse loan is above loan value, plus interest and charges at time warehouse receipts are taken over by CCC, the difference will be paid to producers. Here's complete list of applicable commodities with maturity and final repayment dates applicable to 1951-crop CCC warehouse loans: Grain sorghums, March 31; wheat, oats, barley, rye, flaxseed (except in Texas, California, and Arizona), rice, hay, pasture, and range grass seed (except Buffalo grass) April 30; soybeans, May 31; corn, July 31; buffalo grass seed, September 30. Warehouse receipts unredeemed on above dates will be taken over by CCC on those dates.

An estimated 303,425,000 bushels of U.S. wheat, flour and macaroni were exported in the eight months of July 1951 through February 1952. Exports same period 1950-51 were 178,366,000 bushels. Exports other grains and grain products estimated at 114,242,000 bushels in 1951-52 eight month period, against 150,091,000 bushels for like period 1950-51. These include corn, oats, grain sorghums, barley, rye, corn grits, hominy and meal, corn starch and flour, oat meal and malt.

* * *

AGRICULTURE SECRETARY BRANNAN HAS INVITED LEADERS OF SIX NATIONAL COOPERATIVE ASSOCIATIONS TO MEMBERSHIP ON ADVISORY GROUP WHICH WILL CONSULT WITH HIM FROM TIME TO TIME ON MATTER AFFECTING USDA'S RELATIONSHIPS WITH FARMER COOPERATIVES.

* * *

WOOL

USDA has announced loan rates of "shorn wool" and purchase prices for "pulled wool" under its 1952 price support program. Schedules based on national average support of 54.2 cents per pound, grease basis, for 1952-53 marketing year. Program on shorn wool will operate through nonrecourse loans available through December 31, 1952. Pulled wool will be supported through purchases, also available through December 31, 1952.

* * *

LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

Output of meat in federally inspected plants week ended March 29 climbed to 325 million pounds...5 percent over previous week, 12 percent above year earlier. Production first quarter this year more than 9 percent over year ago, veal being only class to lag in production.

* * *

MOLASSES

USDA has authorized Office of International Trade, Commerce Dept. to relax export controls on inedible molasses and to approve applications for export of reasonable quantities to countries customarily purchasing product in U.S. Exports embargoed since October 1950 to prevent depletion of supplies needed for essential U.S. uses.

* * *

EGGS, BROILERS AND FRESH ORANGES AND GRAPEFRUIT ARE FEATURED ITEMS ON USDA LIST OF FOODS EXPECTED TO BE IN PLENTIFUL SUPPLY NATIONALLY DURING MAY. OTHER ITEMS INCLUDE CANNED AND FROZEN ORANGE JUICE, CANNED GRAPEFRUIT JUICE, DRIED PRUNES AND RAISINS, FRESH FISH, FROZEN OCEAN PERCH FILLETS, DAIRY PRODUCTS, PEANUT BUTTER, COOKING FATS AND SALAD OILS.

* * *

SUGAR

Distribution by primary distributors week ended March 22 totaled 202,672 short tons, raw value, against 104,305 same week 1951. Total to date this year 1,719,928 short tons, compared with 1,598,286 same period last year. Covers distribution in continental U. S. for civilian and military use.

* * *

PESTICIDES

A PMA survey shows farmers will need about 9 percent more pesticides during 1951-52 crop year than last.

* * *

POULTRY & POULTRY PRODUCTS

USDA has made some changes in its regulations for inspecting the freezing and drying of eggs. Firms can now get a federal label on all processed eggs fit to eat. A shield will identify plant's top quality product, a rectangle for product still wholesome but of lower quality. Shell eggs or finished products not fit for human consumption must be denatured. Products from plants without inspection service can be examined later by federal inspectors who will issue certificate indicating condition of eggs. Eggs from such plants won't be identified by shield or rectangular mark.

Issuance of poultry shrinkage table by PMA's Poultry Branch has brought numerous requests for it from processors, teachers and others. Table shows weight losses in dressing and eviscerating poultry.

For first time in five years 1951 world egg output showed no significant increase over preceding year.

Setting of eggs for broiler production so far this year continues a fourth above same period last year. However, setting of eggs and placement of chicks declining last few weeks. During third week of March, placements of chicks on broiler farms in Indiana above one million for first time on record.

* * *

INDEX OF PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS IN MID-MARCH WAS
1 POINT UNDER MID-FEBRUARY, 23 POINTS BELOW YEAR EARLIER AND
LOWEST SINCE DECEMBER 1950. INDEX OF PRICES PAID BY FARMERS,
INCLUDING INTEREST, TAXES AND WAGE RATES REMAINED AT RECORD
HIGH.

* * *

MILK

Among offerings of dry skim milk for animal feed for sale by CCC at competitive prices are the following quantities in the midwest: Falls Dairy, Centuria, Wisconsin, 184,430 lbs.; St. Paul Terminal Warehouse, St. Paul, Minn., 40,500 lbs.; Milwaukee Cold Storage Warehouse, Milwaukee, Wis., 45,883 lbs.; Crooks Terminal Warehouse, Chicago, Ill., 19,375 lbs.

Submit bids daily, Monday through Friday of each week, to Dairy Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington 25, D. C. Apply to Chicago PMA Commodity Office, 623 S. Wabash Ave., for permission to examine milk for condition and packaging only.

Federal milk order actions by USDA the past week involved:

- (1) Columbus, Ohio, order. Amendment made several changes in pricing provisions following approval by cooperative representing more than two-thirds of producers in area. Seasonal pricing now provides for Class I price differential of \$1.10 for each month of year.
- (2) Greater Kansas City order. Basis upon which minimum price for Class I milk is established for April changed by amendment. Change sets minimum April price to producers at basic formula price plus differential of \$1.45.
- (3) Tri-State order. (contiguous area of Kentucky, W. Virginia, and Ohio) "Supply-demand" provisions amended after approval by coop associations representing more than two-thirds of producers. Adjustment applies to Class I and Class II differentials which will go up and down automatically as relationship changes between volume of Class I milk and receipts of milk from producers.

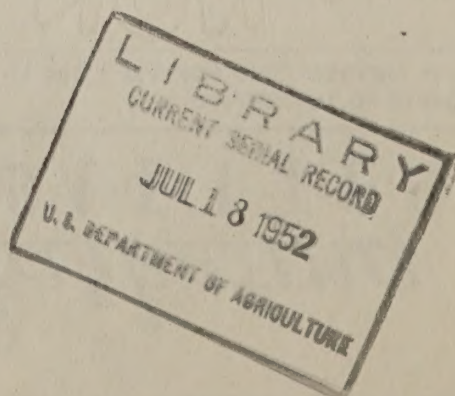
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UNUSUAL OUTBREAKS OF ANTHRAX WERE REPORTED TO WASHINGTON
AUTHORITIES THE PAST WEEK BY A GROUP OF MEMBERS OF U.S. LIVE-
STOCK SANITARY ASSOCIATION. RECOMMENDATIONS FILED WITH USDA ASK
FOR STRICT REGULATIONS ON IMPORTED BONEMEAL PRODUCTS UNLESS
PROPERLY STERILIZED AGAINST ANTHRAX SPORES.

* * *

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Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

2 X
April 8, 1952

GRAINS

USDA has announced there will be no "reseal" loan programs for 1951-crop corn, wheat, barley, rye, oats, grain sorghums, dry edible beans, rice, soybeans, flaxseed, winter cover crop seed and hay and pasture seed under price support. Moreover, none of the "reseal" loans maturing this year will be extended. Reasons are smaller grain supplies this year, smaller quantities under price support; less pressure on storage and transportation facilities and adequate CCC storage capacity for any grains that may be acquired under price support.

Farmers had 289,824,564 bushels of 1951-crop grains and oilseeds under price support at end of February, 1952, compared with about 364,711,172 bushels same period last year. Included were wheat 212,085,004, rye 517,976, corn 19,455,210, oats 13,036,401, barley 16,903,409, grain sorghums 14,895,340, soybeans 11,062,656 and flaxseed 1,869,468. Also under support - in hundredweight - 3,079,808 dry edible beans, 5,770,831 rice, 172,180 hay and pasture seed, 89,126 winter cover crop seed.

Sales of wheat under IWA March 26 to April 1 totaled 3,710,000 bushels. Cumulative sales since opening of quotas for 1951-52 on June 14, 1951 now total 247,936,000 bushels.

* * *

FOLLOWING ARE REPRESENTATIVE LOAN RATES, BOSTON BASIS, FOR GRADED FLEECE SHORN WOOLS UNDER 1952 SUPPORT PROGRAM: WHILE MOST LOANS WILL BE ON GREASE WOOL, QUOTED PRICES ARE ON CLEAN WOOL PER POUND. FINE GRADED DELAINE, 64'S AND FINER \$1.66, 1/2-BLOOD, STAPLE AND GOOD FRENCH COMBING 60'S AND FINER \$1.46; 3/8THS BLOOD, GRADED 56/58S AVERAGE TO GOOD LENGTH \$1.46; 1/4 BLOOD, GRADED 48/50S STAPLE AND GOOD FRENCH COMBING \$1.15. FULL SCHEDULE OF LOAN RATES ON "SHORN WOOL" AND PURCHASE PRICES OF "PULLED" WOOL AVAILABLE FROM PMA COMMODITY OFFICE, 623 SOUTH WABASH AVENUE, CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

* * *

MILK-CHEESE

CCC is prepared to receive offers for sale of spray nonfat dry milk solids and American cheddar cheese under 1952-53 program to support prices to producers of manufacturing milk and butterfat. Purchases will be made at 17.00 cents per pound for extra grade milk and 38.25 cents per pound for standard moisture cheese. For further details contact PMA Commodity Office, 623 South Wabash Avenue, Chicago, 5, Illinois. WEBster 9-7000, Ext. 59.

* * *

COTTONSEED

USDA will support 1952-crop cottonseed through loans, purchase agreements and purchases of cottonseed and cottonseed products. Price support loans will be made at \$66.40 per ton for basis grade (100). In areas where purchase program may be necessary, Department will purchase at \$62.40 per ton. Other provisions of program will be developed and announced at later date. Loan rate on 1951-crop cottonseed was \$65.50 per ton, purchase price \$61.50.

* * *

PMA AREA INFORMATION OFFICES ARE SCHEDULING USDA'S NEWEST FILM TITLED "FOOD, FIBER, AND THE FUTURE," PREPARED ESPECIALLY FOR TV USE, WITH TV STATIONS FOR EARLY SHOWING. FILM EXPLAINS TO FARMERS AND CITY PEOPLE THE NEED FOR GREATER FEED GRAIN PLANTING.

* * *

LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

Federally inspected output of meat week ended April 5 was 312 million pounds, 4 percent under previous week, 4 percent above year earlier. Production above year ago for tenth consecutive week. Cattle slaughter continues to provide bigger proportion of meat supply as hog kill drops seasonally.

World cattle numbers at beginning of 1952 are estimated by USDA's Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations at a record 821 million head, up moderately from the 808 million estimated at start of 1951 and well above 1936-40 average of 743 million.

CCC STATUS

CCC had \$1,830,127,000 invested in price support loans and inventories on February 29, including \$740,262,000 in outstanding loans and \$1,089,865,000 in inventories. Operations in wheat, tobacco, cotton and corn made up most of loan total. Corporation had net loss of \$40,442,000 in carrying out program first eight months of current fiscal year ending June 30, 1952. Loss for full fiscal year ended June 30, 1951 was \$345,599,000.

* * *

EGGS AND MILK ARE BETTER SOURCES OF VITAMIN B12 THAN PREVIOUSLY THOUGHT, USDA SCIENTISTS REPORT. PRESENCE OF EXTRA AMOUNT DETECTED BY NEW METHOD OF EXTRACTION. USE OF CYANIDE IN EXTRACTION WILL ENABLE NUTRITIONISTS TO BETTER ESTIMATE QUANTITIES OF B12 IN FOOD MATERIALS AND ESTABLISH MORE DEFINITELY REQUIREMENTS FOR ANIMALS AND MAN.

* * *

FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Following set-aside percentages from 1952 pack canned fruits and vegetables for defense use have been established by USDA: Asparagus 5.0; Lima Beans 9.5; Green or Wax Beans 7.2; Carrots 18.5; sweet corn 7.2; green peas 7.4; pumpkin 8.3; sweet potatoes 33.3; tomatoes 9.0; tomato catsup 6.5; tomato paste 4.7; apples 5.8; applesauce 5.1; apricots 16.7; blackberries 27.1; blueberries 13.8; RSP cherries 10.4; sweet cherries 8.7; Kadota figs 35.7; fruit cocktail 6.0; peaches 6.6; Bartlett pears 6.6; pineapple 6.9; purple plums 11.4.

* * *

SEED

A price support program for 1952-crop hay, pasture and range grass seed has been announced by USDA. Principal changes from 1951 program include (1) addition of Tift Sudan to list of certified Sudan grass seed for support (2) reduced support prices for Southern Alfalfa, all certified Alfalfa, certified Ladina and Birdsfoot Trefoil (3) higher support prices for smooth Brome Grass and Crested Wheatgrass.

* * *

THE CHICAGO COMMODITY OFFICE OF PMA ANNOUNCED SALES DURING PERIOD MARCH 28 TO APRIL 3 OF 1,331,175 BUSHELS OF CORN, 8 TONS OF CORN SCREENINGS, 10,650 CWT. OF DRY EDIBLE CRANBERRY BEANS. THESE COMMODITIES ACQUIRED THROUGH GOVERNMENT SUPPORT OF PRICES TO FARMERS IN SIX MIDWESTERN STATES.

* * *

POULTRY AND EGGS

Prices received by farmers for eggs in mid-March averaged 33.9 cents per dozen, slightly under month earlier and sharply below year ago. Production near seasonal peak and spring price decline probably about over, according to BAE. Prices, however, likely to continue below 1951 levels.

Potential layers on farms January 1, 1952 totaled 423,225,000...3 percent above year earlier. About 92 percent of these potential layers were in laying flocks on January 1, remaining 8 percent were pullets not of laying age.

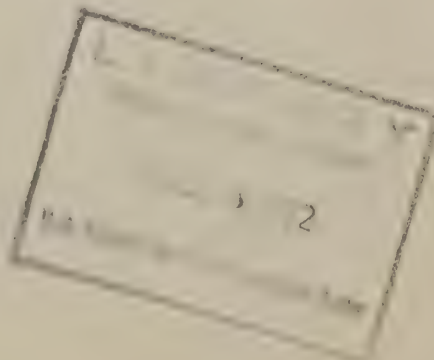
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More farms produce chickens than any other farm products, Census of 1950 shows. Eggs and poultry are third largest source of income to U. S. farmers, ranking after meat animals and milk and dairy products. However, only about 3 percent of farms derive more than 50 percent of gross income from eggs and poultry.

* * *

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PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

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April 15, 1952

POULTRY AND EGGS

USDA will buy, on competitive bid basis, up to 500,000 cases of shell eggs to divert temporary market surpluses. Eggs will go to school lunch programs and other eligible outlets this fall. Detailed announcement mailed to egg dealers by Poultry Branch, PMA, which will receive bids beginning April 29.

Farm flocks laid 6,441,000,000 eggs in March ... 5 percent above both March 1951 and 1941-50 average. Rate of production, 17.7 eggs per layer, a record high for month.

BAE says egg prices next 8 or 10 weeks will depend upon number moving to storage. More eggs than needed for immediate consumption apt to be produced well into June, hence storage interest to hold key to prices.

Cold storage holdings at start of April were the largest since 1946 at 1,603,000 cases against 942,000 a month earlier, 309,000 a year earlier and 1947-51 average of 762,000.

Storage holdings of poultry on April 1 were 232,482,000 lbs; last month 270,397,000; last year, 192,913,000; and 5-year average 192,388,000 lbs.

* * *

KENTUCKY HAS BANNED IMPORTATION OF MULES, CATTLE, AND SWINE FROM OHIO, INDIANA, ILLINOIS, MICHIGAN, AND OTHER STATES WHERE ANTHRAX IS DECLARED A THREAT TO LIVESTOCK AND MAN BY U.S. LIVESTOCK SANITARY ASSOCIATION.

* * *

GRAINS

The 947 million bushels of winter wheat forecast by BAE would be 47 percent above 1951 crop of 645 million...nearly one-fifth larger than the 800 million bushel average.

Stocks of wheat on farms April 1 were 201,500,000 bushels against 317,111,000 a year earlier and ten year average of 226,697,000.

Corn in farm storage April 1 totaled 1,068 million bushels, nearly one-fifth less than year earlier, one-sixth below average.

World corn output in 1951-52 estimated at 5.3 billion bushels...75 million under previous forecast but 175 million above 1950-51 total. Big increase over previous crop in Europe, where harvest now back to prewar level and some 38 percent over small 1950 crop.

Two proposed amendments to U.S. standards for milled rice are aimed to facilitate processing and marketing of unpolished milled product in grades 5 and 6. Proposed by rice industry.

* * *

SUGAR

About 35,000 short tons of Cuban refined sugar have been purchased by USDA for export to Iran under Technical Cooperation Administration program. Purchase prices from 5.255 to 5.31 cents per pound.

Quantity of sugar charged against 1952 quotas for various producing areas supply U.S. market during January-March was 1,836,268 short tons, raw value, against 1,865,385 same period of 1951.

* * *

DAILY REPORTS OF THE CINCINNATI MARKET FOR FRUITS AND VEGETABLES LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY AND POULTRY PRODUCTS ARE NOW BEING BROADCAST DIRECTLY FROM USDA OFFICE IN CINCINNATI OVER RADIO STATION WZIP, COVINGTON, KENTUCKY, AT 12:20 P.M. USDA MARKET NEWS MEN PERSONALLY GIVE REPORTS. MORE THAN 20 RADIO STATIONS ARE NOW BROADCASTING USDA MARKET REPORTS DIRECT FROM MARKET NEWS OFFICES IN U.S.

FARM LABOR

With 8,790,000 people engaged in farm work during week of March 23-29, farm employment showed usual seasonal upswing from February. However, total 200,000 below year ago. Family workers employed up 10 percent from February to March, hired workers up more than one-third. Family workers 7,133,000; hired workers 1,657,000. Overall farm wage rates 2 percent above January 1 level.

* * *

FRUIT AND VEGETABLES

Prospects for south Texas early onions declined during March and expected total of 3,686,000 50-lb. sacks for all districts is 8 percent under March 1 indications. Still well above 1951 output of 2,024,000 sacks.

* * *

LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

USDA is offering to buy smoked pork products to divert burdensome pork supplies from market. Goes to school lunch programs and other eligible outlets later this year. Offers invited on shoulder cuts, picnics, hams and bacon not later than 12:00 noon, EST., April 18. Offers go to Livestock Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington 25, D. C. Detailed specifications included in purchase announcement sent to meat industry.

Holdings of all pork in cold storage April 1 were 819,209,000 lbs. compared with 793,870,000 March 1 and 648,384,000 a year earlier.

Federally inspected output of meat week ended April 12 totaled 302 million pounds, 3 percent below previous week, 2 percent over year ago. Decline from preceding week due to generally smaller slaughter. However, output above year ago for 11th straight week. Lamb and mutton production up 43 percent from last year.

BAE says early lambs generally in good condition, but development retarded during March by cool, wet weather. Crop expected to be somewhat smaller and marketings later than last year.

* * *

A COOPERATIVE SURVEY AND REPORTING SERVICE TO FOREWARN

FARMERS OF POSSIBLE INSECT INFESTATIONS HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED BY

USDA'S BUREAU OF ENTOMOLOGY AND PLANT QUARANTINE. ENTOMOLOGISTS

OF STATE AGENCIES, INDUSTRY AND FEDERAL GOVERNMENT WILL PARTICIPATE.

* * *

DAIRY PRODUCTS

Dry casein production for February was 580,000 pounds, smallest for month in 29 years except in February 1946. Output 58 percent under year earlier, 56 percent below 5-year average for February. Manufacturers stocks, however, continued at high level of 3,750,000 pounds at end of month - 113 percent above year ago, 72 percent over 1946-50 average.

Changing of minimum Class I milk prices under the Dubuque, Iowa Federal milk order to provide a direct relationship to the seasonal price changes under Quad Cities order has been recommended by USDA. Would result in increase of 2-1/2 cents per cwt. in Class I differential on annual average basis.

The Detroit, Michigan, milk order will be reviewed at hearing at 10:00 a.m. WST, May 12, at Park-Sheraton Hotel, Detroit.

March milk output on all farms estimated at 9,679 million pounds, same as year earlier, lower than same month in 7 of past 10 years. Production equivalent to average of 2.0 pounds per day per person, lowest for month since 1935.

* * *

MOST RECENT ESTIMATES OF COCOA PRODUCTION SHOW 1951-52 CROP

WILL BE ABOUT 11 PERCENT BELOW THE 1950-51 RECORD. DROP BELOW

AVERAGE OUTPUT FOR YEARS JUST PRECEDING WORLD WAR II A POSSIBILITY.

WORLD SUPPLIES EXPECTED TO REMAIN FAIRLY TIGHT NEXT TWO MONTHS.

* * *

PLENTIFUL FOODS

Oranges, eggs, broilers and fryers are featured items on USDA's list of foods expected to be in plentiful supply in the Midwest during May. Other plentiful are canned and frozen orange juice, grapefruit (fresh and processed) dried prunes and raisins, dairy products, pork and pork products, fresh and frozen fish, peanut butter, cooking fats and salad oil. Among spring vegetables from early producing areas, asparagus, spinach, green onions, lettuce, carrots and cabbage are expected to be in good supply at favorable prices.

* * *

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MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

April 22, 1952

LIVESTOCK AND MEATS

The Russell Packing Company, the Dower Packing Company and Thomas Dower, all of Chicago, are being charged by USDA with hiring Timothy Hunt, also of Chicago, so as to permit Hunt to evade the effect of a suspension order under the Packers and Stockyards Act. Hunt and other hog dealers were suspended from doing business at Chicago stockyards for 15 months last October after bribing weighmasters to falsify hog weights.

Number of cattle on feed for market in 11 cornbelt states on April 1 was about 80,000 head or 3 percent larger than a year earlier. All cornbelt states except Ohio, Missouri, and Kansas reported increases. Increase was 4 percent in the three important feeding states of Illinois, Iowa, and Nebraska, where 1,823,000 head compared with 1,746,000 on April 1, 1951.

Meats in storage at end of March totaled 1.2 billion pounds, more than half of total weight of all commodities in freezer storage in nation.

Output of federally inspected meat during week ended April 19 was 296 million pounds, 2 percent below the previous week, 1 percent under a year ago.

World sheep numbers at start of 1952 were 808 million head...30 million above year earlier. Numbers on upswing since 1947.

* * *

AS OF APRIL 3, FORTY-FIVE PERCENT OF STATE USDA AGENCY OFFICES WERE UNDER ONE ROOF. FIFTY-TWO PERCENT OF THE COUNTIES HAD ONE-STOP SERVICE.

* * *

POULTRY AND EGGS

USDA proposes to revise federal specifications and weight classes for consumer and wholesale grades for shell eggs in order to clarify language used to describe same; also to reinstate U.S. procurement grades and weight classes to make possible egg purchases by various Government agencies on a uniform basis.

Poultry grading and inspection regulations have been amended by USDA to bring them in line with recommendations of industry and public health officials, as well as with proposed revisions in Federal procurement specifications. Except for minor revisions, changes are essentially those proposed for consideration and comment on March 21, 1952. One of major changes, effective July 1, 1953, will prohibit consumer grade labeling of individual carcasses of uneviscerated poultry. Other changes are effective immediately.

CCC still had 5,668,030 pounds of dried eggs on hand on April 12.

* * *

GRAINS

The International Wheat Council is meeting in London to consider renewal of the International Wheat Agreement. L. A. Wheeler is chairman of the U. S. delegation. PMA representatives are Elmer F. Kruse, Maurice M. Benidt and Albert J. Borton.

150,000 long tons of wheat have been programmed by USDA for export shipment to Italy. This quantity is in addition to 160,000 long tons previously programmed on March 14 for April, May, and June.

* * *

PLANT SCIENTISTS ARE CAREFULLY SCREENING BETWEEN 13,000 AND 14,000 WHEATS IN THE WORLD COLLECTION TO FIND RESISTANCE TO FOUR SERIOUS HAZARDS, NAMELY (1) WHEAT STEM RUST RACE 15B (2) WHEAT MOSAIC (3) WHEAT STEM SAWFLY (4) STINKING SMUT.

* * *

SEEDS

A 9 percent decrease from last year's acreage of vegetable seeds for harvest this year is reported in a nation-wide survey just completed by BAE. Reductions in acreage of 19 seeds more than offset increases in acreage of 27 other seeds.

* * *

MILK

Producer prices for milk for fluid use declined in early April in more markets than in any month since April 1950. Widespread drops were reported from 32 markets, almost 1 in every 3 reporting to BAE. Retail prices were down in early April in 17 markets, about 1 in every 7. A year ago, producer prices between March and April were slightly lower; retail prices slightly higher.

* * *

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS

Cooler held foodstuffs March 31 totaled 1.4 billion pounds compared with 1.8 billion year earlier and 5-year average for date of 1.5 billion. Freezer held commodities 2.3 billion pounds, 489 million over year earlier, 600 million above 5-year average.

Following are net changes in storage holdings during March:

Cooler	Holdings	Net Change	Freezer	Holdings	Net Change
Commodities	Mar. 31	during March	Commodities	Mar. 31	during Mar.
	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.		1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
Apples	290,256	- 225,888	Fruits	235,999	-31,023
Pears	7,050	-7,150	Vegetables	349,887	-48,812
Dried & ev.fts.	53,110	- 284	Cream	4,024	-1,521
Can'd. ft.&veg.	3,506	- 92	Cream'ybutter	6,157	-1,722
Nuts & nutmeats	114,262	+ 12,939	Eggs	84,444	+ 23,868
Cheese	154,369	- 11,671	Poultry	233,482	- 36,915
Shell eggs	72,135	+ 29,745	Beef	245,257	+ 813
Dried eggs	14,722	- 852	Pork	599,378	+ 6,380
Beef	9,126	- 413	Sausage	7,840	- 638
Pork	210,585	+ 9,713	Lamb &mutton	15,911	+2,379
Sausage	10,158	- 830	Veal	18,980	+ 7,263
Canned meats	49,614	+ 2,852	Edible offal	69,985	- 468
Lard & pork fat	68,702	+ 14,886	Other	380,120	+20,102
Other	313,197	- 61,543			
Total.....	1,370,792	- 238,588	Total.....	2,251,464	-60,294

"7 STEPS TO PLENTY" IS TITLE OF USDA BOOKLET WITH SERIES OF ILLUSTRATIONS TO SHOW NEED FOR BIG FARM OUTPUT THIS YEAR. "STEPS" EMPHASIZE GOOD FARM PRACTICES NECESSARY FOR HIGH YIELDS. CARTOON TYPE DRAWINGS MAY BE FREELY USED BY THOSE WHO DISSEMINATE VISUAL INFORMATION TO PUBLIC.

* * *

FREIGHT RATES

ICC has granted freight rate increase of 15 percent to railroads. Rise on grain and grain products limited to 12 percent, fruits and vegetables and canned food products to 12¢ per hundred pounds, sugar to 10¢ per hundred pounds. No increase on protective services like icing and heating, loading or unloading livestock or for demurrage charges. Increase cancels temporary one of 6 percent in this part of country, granted late last year. Roads can put new rates into effect on 15 days notice, except for required 30 day notice on grain.

* * *

FRUIT AND VEGETABLE

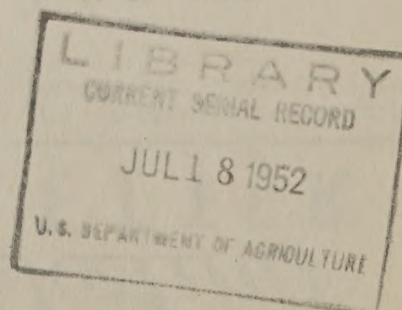
The following members and alternates will serve on the South Dakota Potato Committee to administer marketing agreement and order regulating handling of Irish potatoes produced in Eastern South Dakota counties of Codington, Clark, Hamlin, Deuel, Brown, Day, and Kingsbury: Edward J. Spevak and Nick Kranz, both of Watertown; Albert Cizadlo, Goodwin, and Albert Markrund, Wallace; Chas. A. Larkin, Jr. and Walter Logan, both of Clark; Howard Robb, Garden City, and Arthur Frank, Clark; C. A. Rea, Garden City, and Ralph Maynard, Clark; Red Huke, Hayti and John Gleysteen, Castlewood; and D. G. Johnson, Aberdeen and Harry Upturn, Webster.

USDA has issued first standards for currants and raspberries for processing. Requested by growers and state marketing officials.

Standards for grades of frozen asparagus were revised April 15, superseding those in effect since April 15, 1944.

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Food Marketing NEWSLETTER

PRODUCTION AND MARKETING ADMINISTRATION
MIDWESTERN AREA - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES --- 623 S. WABASH AVE., CHICAGO 5, ILLINOIS.

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

April 29, 1952

MEAT AND LIVESTOCK

USDA has bought 10 million pounds of hams and 2 million pounds of bacon, in effort to bolster price of live hogs. Another purchase will be made this week. Smoked pork will be distributed to schools next fall. Hog prices have climbed approximately 50¢ per hundred since USDA announced plan to buy pork.

Canadian government has confirmed another outbreak of foot and mouth disease in Saskatchewan, about one mile outside original quarantine zone. Approximately 50 miles from U. S. border. Only one herd involved, with all animals slaughtered immediately. U. S. has veterinarian working with Canadian officials as observer.

Meat production under Federal inspection week ended April 26, estimated at 305 million pounds, 3 per cent above previous week, 1 per cent above year ago. Slaughter operations approached normal at points along upper Missouri and Mississippi Rivers, but still restricted along Mississippi in Iowa and Wisconsin. Hog slaughter fell slightly below year ago; calf slaughter surprised by going above year ago; cattle slaughter barely above last year, but sheep and lamb slaughter was up 20 per cent.

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SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE HAS DESIGNATED EIGHT COUNTIES IN NORTH DAKOTA AND NINE IN SOUTH DAKOTA AS AREAS WHERE USDA WILL MAKE DISASTER LOANS TO FARMERS SUFFERING LOSSES FROM FLOODS ALONG MISSOURI, RED, SIOUX, AND VERMILLION RIVERS.

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DAIRY

USDA will take another look at instructions for dairy plants under USDA supervision and inspection. Proposals were made in February and industry men offered many suggestions for changes. Revised proposals will be made at later date.

Price of milk received by farmers supplying Kansas City drops this week, cancels out emergency increase granted last year, because of short feed supply resulting from floods. Reduction affects only milk sold for bottling. Another change authorizes handlers to hold back 40¢ per cwt. during spring months, to be added to price paid to producers in fall months, as means of encouraging increased milk production during fall.

PMA Dairy Branch offers to sell 26 lots of dried skim milk (spray process) to highest bidders. Lots range 40,000 - 70,000 pounds, stored in Midwest, except for two lots in New York state. Some grade Standard, some Extra. Details available from Dairy Branch, Production and Marketing Administration, USDA, Washington.

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FRUITS AND VEGETABLES

Standards for grades of frozen lima beans will be changed, and proposals are made to change standards for canned sweet cherries and canned plums. New standards on frozen limas go into effect May 29; allow for new type called "thick-seeded baby potato" lima bean.

For canned cherries, proposal is to eliminate Grades D and E now in use, seconds and pie cherries, keeping only top three grades.

For canned plums, proposal is to eliminate Grade E, lowest grade, make minor changes in other grades. Standards cover three main variety groups, purple, green gage, and yellow egg. Industry comments on proposals invited by Fruit and Vegetable Branch, PMA, USDA, Washington 25. D.C.

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GRAINS

USDA researchers report generous use of nitrogen fertilizer on corn and on wheat increases yield in most cases, also increases protein content of grain. Planting corn thickly in field also shaded out weeds.

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PLENTIFUL FOODS

Broiler and fryer chickens join eggs and oranges as feature items on May list of Plentiful Foods in Midwest. Eggs and oranges appeared on list during several earlier months. Plentiful Foods list is sent by PMA to food distributors and to food editors and broadcasters as means of encouraging consumers to buy more of items which are most plentiful. Special promotion attention will be given to broilers and fryers, and to oranges during May 8 - 17.

Midwest Plentifuls during May are

Oranges	Eggs	Asparagus
Orange juice	Broilers and Fryers	Spinach
Prunes	Pork	Green onions
Raisins	Fish	Lettuce
	Dairy products	Carrots
	Peanut butter	Cabbage
	Cooking fats	
	Salad oils	

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U.S. EXPORTED OVER 76 MILLION BUSHEL OF GRAIN IN MARCH. NINE-MONTH TOTAL SINCE LAST JULY IS OVER 500 MILLION BUSHEL, COMPARED WITH 394 MILLION IN SIMILAR PERIOD YEAR AGO. MARCH SHIPMENTS OF WHEAT, OVER 50 MILLION BUSHEL, WERE LARGEST IN 11 MONTHS: SO WERE SHIPMENTS OF OTHER GRAINS, TOTALING OVER 25 MILLION BUSHEL.

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SALES OF COMMODITIES

Commodity Credit Corporation adds cottonseed oil and pea beans (1950 crop) to list of commodities available for export sale during month of May. Other items previously on export sale list include Great Northern and Baby Lima beans, Austrain winter peas, wheat, oats, and barley.

Within U. S., CCC will sell dried eggs, linseed oil, cottonseed oil, pinto and cranberry beans, Austrain winter peas, seed of blue lupine, vetch, red clover, and ladino clover; wheat, barley, oats, corn, and flaxseed. Only change from April is addition of ladino clover seed.

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LIVESTOCK

Production of meat animals on farms last year estimated at more than 44 billion pounds, second highest on record, 6 per cent above last year. Record production was 46.6 billion pounds in 1943. Farmers collected \$11.8 billion for their animals, \$2 billion more than year earlier. Cattle production was highest on record, although total weight marketed was slightly below 1950. Hog production was over year earlier, but below record set in 1943. Sheep and lamb production 42 per cent below record year, 1942, but 1 per cent above 1950.

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PMA RESEARCHERS COLLABORATING WITH COMMERCIAL FIRM HAVE DEVELOPED NEW ELECTRONIC DEVICE FOR MEASURING OIL CONTENT OF SOYBEANS IN 15 MINUTES, INSTEAD OF HOURS REQUIRED BY CHEMICAL METHOD. NEW METHOD BELIEVED WELL SUITED TO ROUTINE INSPECTION WORK AT GREAT REDUCTION IN COST.

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Nation's wheat supply on April 1 was 521 million bushels, one-fourth smaller than year ago, but only about 9 per cent smaller than average for the date. About 336 million bushels disappeared during first three months of 1952. (See item on grain exports.)

Supplies of corn estimated at 1,527 million bushels, of which 1,068 million was stored on farms, less than average. Since last October, 1,865 million bushels have been used, near-record for period.

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